

LES VOYAGEURS FINAL REPORT

AUG 19/1973
John Evans

The final report is aimed at aiding next year's director & staff. Additional information for operation is included with maps & records in Voyageur stores.

An effort was started this year to compile helpful records for future staff rather than relying on discussions with former staff entirely! Trip reports, camper cards, equipment catalogues, brainstorming idea list, maps indexes, food lists, inventory, canoe damage report were made or assembled. Former staff such as Hugh Dow & Paul Mongraw & present staff Richard Tarlo, Don Lawton & myself should still be consulted.

The use of in-camp staff for Voyageur program should be discouraged although this year Jeff Roberts worked well (in borrowing his from his section directorship). The splitting of a tripper's time between Voyageurs and Hike & Trip works well where either faction can only use the services of the individual for part of the summer.

The use of Voyageur's equipment must be restricted to Voyageur program alone except in programs where Voyageur Staff are involved (eg 1973 Wilderness Camp). A list of expenses and an income-expenditure balance could be maintained in 1974.

The Voyageur's spring preparations are important. Hiring of trippers should be done at least by the end of May and the Voyageur director be involved in this process (with an on-the-water assessment for new staff if possible). Canoe Repair, food & equipment ordering and equipment sorting should be started in early June, with a half week for precamp training before the first trip.

Very minimal damage was sustained by Voyageur canoes this year due to a policy of prudence in trekking-shooting & portaging. The more adventuresome portion of white water work is not part of a trip, but be an excellent in-camp day-outing, program with special equipment, canoes training, staff etc.,.

WINTER PREPARATIONS FOR VOYAGEURS

The Voyageurs must have a permanent workshop & storage area that can be locked (keys with Voyageur director & Julien only). The inconvenience to Voyageurs meterman, and outside groups using the ~~feather~~house and liberties taken by in-camp groups necessitate ~~worked-out-by-Julien~~ a charge of location. This is being worked out by Julien & myself.

Preferably the facility would have space enough to repair at least 2 canoes at a time plus storage, cupboard & filing space for all Voyageur equipment & records.

Packs again require extensive repair that must be done in the winter months not the spring. They are labelled and in a pile in Pagé's shed.

Consideration should be given to the purchase of Grumman aluminium (white water) canoes to replace cedar trip canoes on tougher trips.

This would lessen maintenance & facilitate trips with much rapids & trekking. This type in my strongest should not entirely replace the traditional cedar canoe Voyageurs.

Photos albums & slides of this years program will be assembled for publicity & parents night.

Order C.I.P. and Parc road & route maps & explore other sources eg. government, tourism etc.

The worst 3 (or so canoes could be sent out for winter repairs. Recanvasing with extensive plants & rib work is at present too time consuming.

suming & involved. If a rapport was built with a nearby canoe company purchasing of wooden canoes, repair materials & consulting on repairs could be facilitated. This rapport might be built by buying exclusively (or nearly so) from this dealer.

With consultation of an expert for recanvassing and a availability of hard-to-obtain materials like canvas and with the good but limited expertise of present Voyageur & K.K. staff, a good program of canoe repair & savings could be started.

Order food minimally 4 weeks in advance((Gibbons, Freeze-Dry), Pesner, 2 weeks in advance.

WINTER PURCHASING & REPAIRS

Purchasing:

- 1 9-mar tent & fly 12 x 8 x 14 Woods SailSilk Wall tent
- 8 Woods #1 full tripper packs with tumplines
(~~Woods should be consulted on purchasing 1 doz. extra tumplines to repair existing packs.~~)
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- 2* CedarStrip Canoes 16' (Big Chief Huron Village)
- 2* Greeman Aluminium White Water Canoes 16'

* These canoes are being investigated for cost, size application.

Repairing:

Packs:

- 3 Worst canoes (as per canoe damage report)

VOYAGEUR 1973 "BRAINSTORMING IDEA" LIST

John Evans
Don Lawton
Richard Tarlo
Jeff Roberts

Categories

I Equipment(non canoe)

- All spoons & bowls numbered
- Better trenching tools ssee Baron equipment magazine
axe sheatles (from truck inner tubes)
fry-pans (suggestions for alternative types)
small vice-grips (plyers) for general use withe equipment

* Kamp is not to use PARK equipment please (Kamp Kanawana)

- Park outfitted for 4 trips so if 1974 has 5 trips going out in one session, Park must order one more 9-men tent and fly.

- 9-men tent & fly as equipment is optimum as opposed to other types

- webbing straps for tumplines obtain from Surplus Sails
- If buying new packs, purchase "full trippers"
- All leather (ie on packs etc) to be dubbed
- Use swedish bow-saws
- New pot bags or (even better) bags with straps
- First-aid kits optimum size of containers & type of containers, labels ! (contest, dosage, use) first aid kits to be cleaned & painted over winter (lots of band-aids please, Sulpha Powder general external antibiotic).
- Add plastic rubber to boat kits more & heavier gage wire needle & thread.
- Explore new map cases (Mountain Hut)
- Waterproof maps
- Remember to put batteries in backwards.

VI EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- Gone over extenswitch in pre-camp

VII INFORMATION TO PARENTS

CLOTHING LIST

3 sets of clothes one wearing in basecamp two for trip

size of sleeping bag !!!!!

One book per person

High cut running shoes ie boots

Big groundsheets

Spare laces each

Hand towel size

5 blade for sheath knives

arrange parents nights well in advance (2-3weeks) & compulsory camper attendance

bring own lures, ~~cotton~~ line, good container etc,

Rods?

Bring money for own lunches

Application form includes height, weight (no kids under 100 lbs.)

VIII Transportation & Basecamp

- New canoe trailer
- leaving canoes (in good condition (from 1st trip)) at Dorval Lodge
- 3rd seat for staff in truck
- consider rendez-vous
- Other areas within 1 days truck distance

MISCELLANEOUS

- Check design & covering of life-jackets
- Check paddle quality & supplies
- Have help to lift packs & when lifting, lift by material not by straps
- Pack repair ~~where?~~
- First aid liquids in plastic bags or watertight containers over winter
- Look area for Park equipment & close supervision of goods if lent to people other than Park Staff.
- Nurses review of first aid example: antidotes to drugs in first aid
- Waterproof matches commercially proofed.
- Candles good
- Major repairs on canoes should be done over winter look into canoe-repair consultant (with canoe company, with which the camp deals regular)
- Check dried tomato paste
- Check out powdered eggs or scrambled eggs mix
- Look into alternative proteins meat lunches "devils ham"?
- Explore variety of dried fruits
- Explore plastic bags for good plastic bottles for sleeping bags

HOW TO BE YOUR OWN WILDERNESS DOCTOR

Bradford Angieretal
Collier-MacMellan

First aid booklets for even kit

inquire as to Park rules from previous Voyageur Staff(Paul Mongraw) & Park officials

explore ankle guards from rubber truck inner tubes

beware of fishing rods if canoe route goes through forwate fishing clubs